



PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

The following is public correspondence received by the City Clerk's Office after the posting of the original agenda. Individual contact information has been redacted for privacy. This may *not* be a comprehensive collection of the public correspondence, but staff makes its best effort to include all correspondence received to date.

To send correspondence to the City Council, on matters listed on the agenda please email PublicComment@losaltosca.gov

From: [Roberta Phillips](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Public Comment](#)
Subject: 355 First Street . Item #4 Council Meeting Feb8 2022
Date: Sunday, February 6, 2022 11:29:40 AM

Dear Council Members

The proposed project at 355 First Street does not meet the City Of Los Altos design review guidelines for minimizing mass and bulk. The planning Commission recommended many changes to the building, which was not incorporated into the design before you., so the problems still exist as the developer ignored the recommended conditions of approval.

The project does not have adequate articulation for the vertical walls.

The roofline is not broken up, giving the building the appearance of a giant mass.

In addition the roof overhang adds to the mass and bulk of the building.

There is no courtyard or open space on the ground level, but only a lightwell.

The applicant needs to make fundamental changes.

I ask that you deny this project as the applicant has failed to meet the conditions of approval recommended by the Planning Commission.

The City has many new buildings planned and in the process of being built along First Street.

The cumulative traffic and parking problems have not been addressed. I fear that we will not be able to drive down First Street, with delivery trucks, garbage collection, visitor parking, tenant traffic and more, causing severe congestion.

Although this is a SB330 project, I urge the City Council and staff to take the time to get it right or deny the project.

Sincerely

Roberta Phillips



February 7, 2022

Los Altos City Council
Los Altos City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Public Comment - February 8, 2022, Meeting, Agenda Item #4

Dear Mayor Enander, Vice Mayor Meadows, and Councilmembers Lee Eng, Weinberg, and Fligor:


I am writing to express my dismay that this project, 355 First Street, has proceeded so far as to end up before you to vote for its approval or rejection. The Planning Commission should have put a stop to this project in its current form for the following reasons.

1. It does not meet our design review guidelines for minimizing mass and bulk.
2. It fails to provide sufficient articulation of the vertical walls and fails to break up the roofline so that the building doesn't appear to be one large cube-like mass.
3. There is too much unrelieved mass along First Street which is out of scale with other buildings.
4. The roof overhangs add to the mass and bulk of the 4th floor. The floor needs to be pulled back further on Whitney and First. The banding just below the 4th floor also needs to be pulled back.
5. There is no communal open space on the ground level. The courtyard is no more than a lightwell. Our guidelines require visibility of the courtyard from the street.

This project is so far out of compliance with the city's guidelines that it certainly should not be approved in its current state. Please send the plans back to the developer and require that they comply with our guidelines.

I am a 27-year resident homeowner in Los Altos. I vote in every election. Please represent the residents of Los Altos by requiring compliance with our guidelines which were enacted by duly elected councilmembers such as yourselves.

Sincerely,


Freddie Wheeler
931 Oxford Drive
Los Altos, CA 94024

February 7, 2022

Los Altos City Council
Los Altos City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Public Comment - February 8, 2022 Meeting, Agenda Item #4

Dear Mayor Enander, Vice Mayor Meadows, Councilmember Lee Eng, Councilmember Weinberg, and Councilmember Fligor,

I am a Los Altos homeowner and visit downtown nearly every day. I write to express my opposition to the 355 First Street development for the following reasons:

- 1. The project does not meet the City of Los Altos Design Review Guidelines.**
 - The proposal does not minimize mass and bulk. In fact, it does the opposite.
 - The plan fails to provide sufficient articulation of the vertical walls and fails to break up the roofline so that the building doesn't appear to be an unattractive hulking mass.
 - The proposal is out of scale with other buildings.
- 2. The developer-applicant has ignored the conditions for approval.**
- 3. There are too many commercial development projects that are turning First Street into a canyon of unattractive buildings that are not only out-of-scale with our downtown, but will also exacerbate traffic, parking, and infrastructure limitations.**

Please prioritize our city's and resident's desire to preserve the charm and character of our downtown, and not the interests of real estate investors, by rejecting the proposal submitted to you. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Corrigan